

Message Text

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73

ACTION NEA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7418

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 13100

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, US

SUBJ: HIGH LEVEL SOVIET DEL TO SADAT

1. AMERICAN JOURNALIST TOLD POLCOUNS SEPT 28 THAT HE HAD LEARNED FROM THIRD WORLD DIP THAT HIGH LEVEL SOVIET DEL HAD VISITED SADAT IN ALEXANDRIA APPROX TWO WEEKS AGO. DEL CONSISTED OF SEMEN SKATCHKOV, CHAIRMAN OF THE USSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS STATE COMMITTEE FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS; MARSHAL PAVEL KUTAKHOV, COMMANDER OF THE SOVIET AIR FORCE; VAZILY KUZNETZOV, DEPFORNMINISTER; NIKOLAY LEBEDINSKY, CHAIRMAN OF THE SUPREME PLANNING COMMITTEE AND ONE OTHER TOP OFFICIAL.

2. DIPLOMAT HAD REPORTED THAT DEL BROUGHT AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM BREZHNEV WHICH SET OUT IN SOME DETAIL PROGRAM FOR NORMALIZING SOVIET-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS IN ALL SPHERES. PRES SADAT SAID TO HAVE RECEIVED DEL IN COMPANY OF PRIMIN SALIM, GEN HASSAN KHALID, COMMANDER OF AIR FORCES GEN SHAKER ABDEL MUNEIM AND TWO OTHER TOP OFFICIALS.

3. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION THAT SUCH VISIT TOOK PLACE. SADAT'S CRITICISM OF SOVIETS IN SEPT 28 SPEECH (SEPTTEL) SUGGESTS THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO BREAKTHROUGH IN SOVIET-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS AND THAT THEY REMAIN ON SQUARE ONE. VISIT SUPPOSED TO HAVE OCCURED IN ALEXANDRIA WHICH SADAT LEFT AUG 26. IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT IN THIS SIEVELIKE EN-
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VIRONMENT SUCH HIGH LEVEL VISIT COULD HAVE REMAINED SECRET

THIS LONG.
MATTHEWS

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Message Attributes

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